No War Pact with Pakistan

1252. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that General Pervez Musharraf has made gesture of peace mooting a no war pact with India followed by the de-nuclearisation, provided the Kashmir issue was resolved first; and

(b) if so, what has been the response of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) From time to time, Pakistani leaders make such propagandistic statements to attempt to divert attention from their continued support to cross border terrorism and infiltration directed against India.

Nuclear and other Confidence Building Measures could be discussed as a part of the Composite Dialogue. However, creation of conducive climate for a sustained dialogue necessarily requires an end to cross border terrorism and dismantling of the infrastructure of support to terrorism in Pakistan.

Criteria for foreign visits

1253. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed for according or refusing permission to visit foreign countries by the Central and State Ministers including Chief Ministers;

(b) the details of such Minister who were granted permission to visit foreign countries since January, 2001 together with the details of those who were refused permission during the same period along with reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to simplify the procedure for according approval to foreign visits?